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2 April 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Chief, SR/DOB

SUBJECT : Meeting Regarding AECASSOWARY Contacts and Handling, 1 April 1957.

1. Subject meeting was held in the office of [] who presided. In attendance were [] of SR/PP, [] of SR/3/CE and [] SR/DOB/P&P.

2. [] commented briefly (for the undersigned's benefit) regarding the SR/PP plan to gradually phase out all Agency support to the AECASSOWARY complex and try to obtain for them private financial support, so that they will eventually become an independent group operating free from Agency control and support.

3. It was proposed by [] that all Agency dealings with the AECASSOWARIES (i.e., FI, PP, and CE) be written up in one over-all project, the administration of which would be centralized through one individual. All contacts with the AECASSOWARIES, regardless of whether they are PP, CE, or FI interest, will be made by one individual (for the present, []). AECUPBOARD, AECARTHAGE and any similar projects which require contacts with the AECASSOWARIES will be amended to become sub-projects to the over-all project. The over-all project, for the time being, will be administered by SR/PP. However, [] stated that it was his feeling that the project should eventually be turned over to SR/3 for administration.

4. The centralization of contacts with the AECASSOWARIES through [] is to become effective immediately. It was requested that a copy of AECUPBOARD to be sent to SR/PP.

5. Requirements for AEREADY and AECUPBOARD are to be made via [].

6. The undersigned agreed that the proposal seemed like the ideal set up, provided it could be made to work. She felt it would be rather

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difficult for one individual to keep so completely acquainted with all the details involved in the various FI matters, along with CE and PP needs, as to be able to effectively conduct the necessary contacts with the AECASSOWARIES. The others present disagreed with the undersigned's views and after some deliberation [] proposal was accepted by all present.

7. [] complained that the greatest difficulty in contacts with the AECASSOWARIES exists in the financial transactions. The undersigned reminded him that SR/DOB paid no salary to the AECASSOWARIES and that all financial transactions were made on an individual basis. AECUPBOARD and AEREADY provided funds for all expenses in connection with the 2 projects. [] stated that regardless of the funds available via DOB projects, there still were problems involved because of the "special arrangements" by which Agency payments are made to the AECASSOWARIES. He did not clarify what the special arrangements were, but he said that they were very involved. He also felt that if all contacts with the AECASSOWARIES were made via one individual it would eliminate members of the AECASSOWARY group going off on spotting trips and other assignments at times when they could not be spared from their PP activities.

8. The undersigned had no alternative but to agree to the proposal. Preliminary details of the proposal ^{were} discussed by [] and [] of DOB in a previous meeting.

[]
[]
SR/DOB/P&F

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